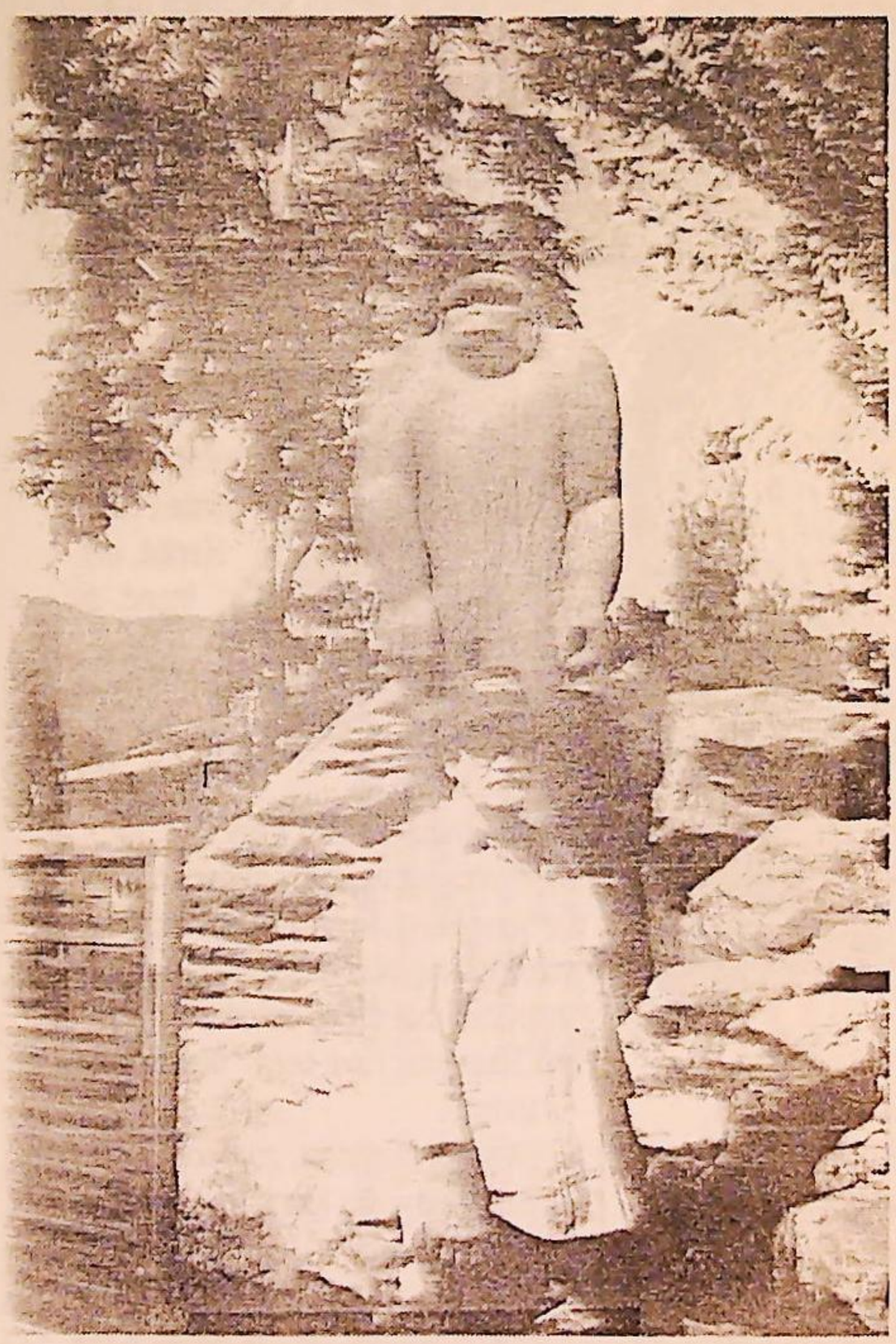
NO. 5 THE BIGFOOT RECORD FREE

EDITORIAL!

Hello out there in Bigfoot Land! In this issue, you are going to see information from George W. Earley, Thomas Steenburg, Sam Sherrys and also Ray Crowe.
Feel free to send or report any sightings or anything related to the sasquatch phenomenon as long as it is legitimate.



This is a picture of Ray Crowe of the Western Bigfoot Society standing next to the Bigfoot Statue at Willow Creek.

Thank You
From the Editor

Billy Green

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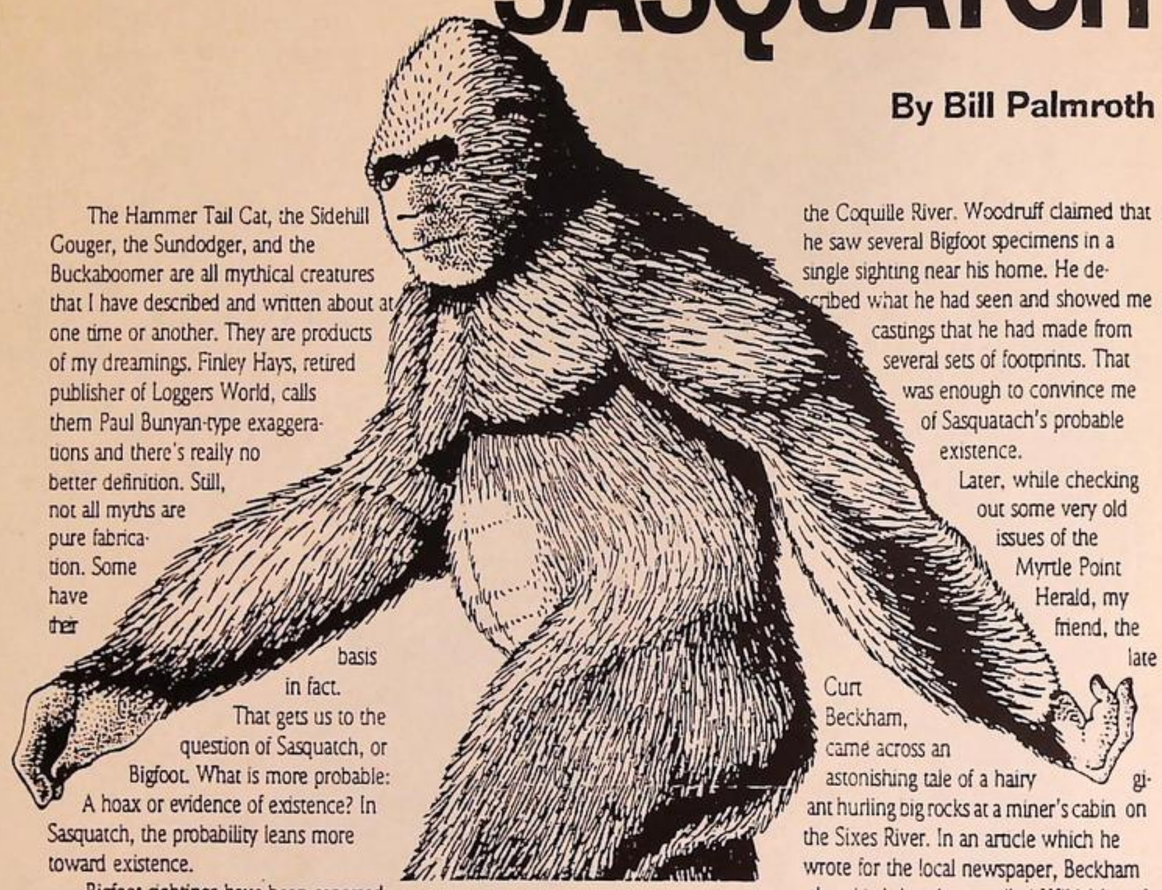
Credit: George W. Earley

SEE NO SASQUATCH

By Bill Palmroth



The Hammer Tail Cat, the Sidehill Gouger, the Sundodger, and the Buckaboomer are all mythical creatures that I have described and written about at one time or another. They are products of my dreamings. Finley Hays, retired publisher of Loggers World, calls them Paul Bunyan-type exaggerations and there's really no better definition. Still, not all myths are pure fabrication. Some have their basis in fact.

That gets us to the question of Sasquatch, or Bigfoot. What is more probable: A hoax or evidence of existence? In Sasquatch, the probability leans more toward existence.

Bigfoot sightings have been reported from almost every area in the contiguous United States, with most of the contemporary reports coming from the Pacific Northwest. The most famous piece of evidence of Bigfoot—if not the most convincing—is from a film showing a large, hairy animal crossing a clearing in Bluff Creek, Calif., photographed on Oct. 20, 1967, by Roger Patterson. I was one of millions of Americans who viewed the Bigfoot film on network television.

Early in the 1970s, while I was serving as publisher of the Myrtle Point Herald weekly newspaper in Southwestern Oregon, there were several reports of Sasquatch sightings in the Myrtle Point area. One of them was by a personal acquaintance, Jack Woodruff, a retired postal service worker who lived near the community of Dora on the East Fork of the Coquille River. Woodruff claimed that he saw several Bigfoot specimens in a single sighting near his home. He described what he had seen and showed me castings that he had made from several sets of footprints. That was enough to convince me of Sasquatach's probable existence.

Later, while checking out some very old issues of the Myrtle Point Herald, my friend, the late Curt Beckham, came across an astonishing tale of a hairy giant hurling big rocks at a miner's cabin on the Sixes River. In an article which he wrote for the local newspaper, Beckham theorized that the so-called Wild Man of the Sixes may have been "Bigfoot's Grandpa".

A set of footprints, purportedly made by Sasquatch, was found by a Forest Service employee on June 10, 1982, near Walla Walla, Wash. The prints showed dermal ridges, the smaller ridges in the skin that make up the whorls of footprints and fingerprints. Grover Krantz, a physical anthropologist from Washington

Ape-man alert

Kootenays awash in Sasquatch sightings

By Suzy Hamilton
Special to The Province

NELSON — A tribe of Sasquatches is living in the Kootenays, says a filmmaker who insists he found a footprint made by a hairy mountain-dweller.

"I can believe anything I want, but I know they exist," says Terence Delorme, 29, a "bush rat" who says he found a 35-centimetre (14-inch) Sasquatch print last summer in the Selkirk Mountains. He also figures the creatures are vegetarian.

After word of the sightings by Delorme and two other believers got out recently, Kootenay residents have been calling them to report their own sightings of the ape-like beast.

"We've had 15 calls in two weeks. And these are not weekend hikers," Delorme said yesterday.

The latest sighting came from Mark Hourie, 35, who was helping buddies spot deer near the Blueberry Paulson Pass in October.

"It was a black biped about half as high as the 17-foot trees," said Hourie's wife, Linda Lockhart. "He knew it had to be a Sasquatch. It was covering too much ground and walking on two legs.

"Mark was a real non-believer before he saw it. But when he came home that night his eyes were bulging right out of his head," said Lockhart. The black biped was striding with arms swinging as Hourie watched through his binoculars.

Auto mechanic Brent Hastings said he saw a Sasquatch while hiking in Kokanee Provincial Park in 1979 and found a footprint two years ago near Laska Creek, north of Nelson.

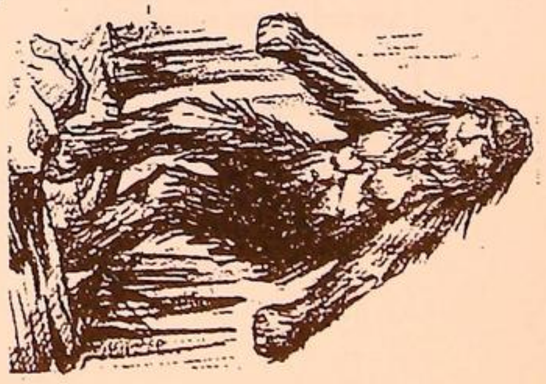
"There's a whole race of them," said Hastings. "I don't doubt them at all. Whatever contact they've made with humans hasn't been good."

Hastings predicted that shrinking wilderness will likely provide more sightings. "There's no way they're not going to be seen more."

But Slocan Valley trapper Ed Kanla, who has been trapping for "60-some years," has never seen a Sasquatch — which comes from the Salish, meaning hairy or wild men.

"In this day and age it could not elude everybody . . . I think they're dreaming. These people probably don't know how to read tracks."

But Delorme insists he's been "reading tracks for years" and "there was a ball and a heel and an ankle-look to it."



The Province Tuesday, Jan. 12, 1993

Credit: Thomas Steenburg

State University, examined the casts of the prints and concluded that to perpetuate such an elaborate hoax, one would need expertise in anatomy, biomechanics, engraving, engineering and dermatoglyphics.

In the case of Bigfoot, many of us refuse to examine the evidence with an eye toward probability because the possibilities pose an intellectual threat. We want proof: Why hasn't someone found a dead Sasquatch? Why hasn't someone shot one?

There are credible answers to these questions. If Sasquatch exists, he is an intelligent creature whose principle defense is his very ability to be elusive. Sightings, therefore, are limited. Sightings by armed observers who have the time and the presence of mind to get off a killing shot so far have been nil.

As far as finding a corpse goes, when was the last time you found the carcass of a bear in the woods? Or heard of someone who had found a bear? The Sasquatch population is small; the animal is elusive; the country in which it lives is big, rugged and inclined to quickly consume the remains of its dead. The likelihood of someone stumbling upon a dead Sasquatch is minute.

Why we reason the way we do is easy to understand. There have been several elaborate hoaxes, and when exposed, they have fueled our skepticism. I remember such a hoax being perpetrated in the Coos Bay area by several mischievous teen-agers during the early 1970s. They did it by creating some fake footprints with a huge pattern cut from a piece of plywood. After an organized Bigfoot search had begun, the local teen-agers came forward and admitted they had perpetrated a hoax.

The lack of endorsement by the scientific community or even the possibility of existence of Bigfoot has no doubt contributed to skepticism among laymen. Most of the scientific community will not acknowledge the existence of a cryptozoid like Sasquatch until one is stretched out on a table, yet no one wants to put the effort into field work in order to bring in a Sasquatch to stretch out because Sasquatch does not exist (because it has never been stretched out on that table...).

Add to that the fighting that goes on among dedicated Sasquatch searchers, and we are left with total confusion leading to the simple conclusion that dismissal is the sensible solution.

Still, I keep thinking about Woodruff's stories and the footprint castings that he showed me about 20 years ago and find myself believing that Bigfoot is real. I know that many of you OFWJ readers are loggers and you have seen some amazing things in the woods—single-antlered cow elk, as well as lightening-fast stiff-legged deer, visible to the human eye only when they stop running and lean against a tree to rest or sleep, and mile-or-more birds, so-named because of their unique ability to scatter their droppings for a mile or more. Thus, it only stands to reason that it will be a logger who makes the next significant Bigfoot sighting.

So what should a logger do if he sees a Sasquatch?

Try to get an accurate measurement of its size. One helpful trick is to stretch out your arm and compare the creature to your knuckles; that is, see how many knuckles it spans. If your can approximate the distance from your position to the creature, you can determine its size.

Pay close attention to the duration of the occurrence. Look at your watch. Was it there for 30 seconds? A minute? Five minutes? So often observers say, "Wow, it was there for a long time," and that long time turns out to be only about 15 seconds.

Finally, pay particular attention to detail and try to relate what you see to things you know. For example, does the animal walk with a rolling gait or with long, even strides? If you can accomplish such detailed observations, you really have your wits about you.

Now, if you do happen to sight a Sasquatch sometime in the future, what are you going to do about it? Are you going to report the sighting to authorities or keep quiet about it? If you were to report it, there's always the chance that the federal government could suddenly become interested in Bigfoot. If so, your logging operation probably would be suspended indefinitely while the Feds took time to study the creature's habitat requirements. That would leave you in a real fix. What's more, any habitat study by the government would very likely lead to a Bigfoot recovery program necessitating additional forest setasides. In this case, perhaps second-growth timber would be targeted.

Your smartest option is to keep any future Bigfoot sightings under your hat, especially if you're on public land. As my grandfather used to say, "Say nothing and saw wood!"

OREGON ORANGUTAN SIGHTING-RAY CROWE, FEB., 1993

Walter Soller was 17 years old in September of 1982, and his dad had left him at a deer hunting stand. He was about a mile or two up a logging road NE of Frog Lake, east of Estacada (T5S, R6E, sec. 25, OR), on a rock pile about 30 foot high, and overlooking a grassy meadow with a creek running through it. He was intently watching 5-6 browsing doe at 7AM that very dry year. All of a sudden in the nearby second growth, twenty foot Christmas trees (douglas fir replants), he heard a tremendous racket of limbs breaking, and trees being "smashed." The deer, curious, looked towards the racket for about ten seconds before skittering away. He thought there must be a bear or something big to make all that noise. About that time Walter says, a Bigfoot came out of the trees/brush about 100 feet away, saw him, and quickly and quietly disappeared back into the brush. The creature was 7 foot high, covered with long straight red, red, hair, like an Irish setter, and had a face that reminded him of the orangutan on the Clint Eastwood movie "Every Which Way But Loose."

On January 31st, 1993 members of the Western Bigfoot Society * visited the area, guided by Cliff Olson, a long time resident of the area and new WBS member. The weather was clear, with about six inches of old snow on the ground. Game tracks were abundant; deer, elk, weasel, bobcat and cougar (small 4 1/2 inch forepaw). A small herd of elk was also briefly observed, but no evidence of Bigfoot was found at the site. A nearby logging road was hiked for about a mile and a half, but no Bigfoot tracks were found here either. It was hoped that with the abundant game spoor that traces of Bigfoot would be found also. This might represent the descendant of the Asian bipedal orangutan that Dr. Grover Krantz mentions (and discarded as a Sasquatch ancestor) several times in his new book, "Big Footprints."

* Report prepared by Western Bigfoot Society Director Ray Crowe, 8622 North Lombard, Portland, OR 97203, (501) 640-6581. Two stamps and two dollars for sample newsletter.

:: Ray Crowe and Western Bigfoot Society

The Ligonier Echo

Wednesday, March 24, 1993

Sam Sherry, Ligonier Valley's own "Bigfoot Tracker," came up with an interesting track recently, on the other side of Chestnut Ridge. That's right: a three-toed version of Bigfoot. Sherry believes the critter that left these prints has large claws and perhaps tusks and should be left alone.

Ligonier Echo photo

Credit: Sam Sherrys

1992 another big year for the 'unexplained'

The Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained (PASU), headed by Stan Gordon of Greensburg, recently issued its annual report on unexplained sightings during the past year, covering everything from Bigfoot to UFO sightings.

"The two UFO incidents which attracted the most attention, and were apparently seen by thousands of observes, were found to be scientifically explainable," noted Gordon's report.

The first on Aug. 30 — a glowing object that some took to be a "flying saucer and was seen in several western Pennsylvania counties — turned out to be a blimp returning from a sporting event in Ohio to its home base in New Jersey. It was illuminated from within by two bright halogen bulbs.

The second, on Oct. 9 at about 7:48 p.m., was a brilliant meteor — a bolide — flashing through the night sky. The object was seen over a wide area encompassing seven states, noted Gordon, who went on to list some of the unexplained cases of 1992:

Febuary 5 — At around 6:15 p.m. in a 40-mile area around Williamsport, apparently hundreds of people observed one or possibly more triangular or boomerang-shaped objects, moving very slowly, and in some cases were seen directly above some homes. The objects produced a loud sound that caused structures and windows to vibrate and frightened animals.

March 9 — In New Kensington, Westmoreland County, two boys playing in a cemetery in the early evening see a disk-shaped object. Lights on the object go off as it reaches the vicinity of the boys, and a bright beam of light is emitted toward the youths — a light so intense it hurts their eyes. The frightened boys run toward a road, and the object follows a short distance before returning in the direction from which it came.

June 23 — A woman traveling on Route 22 in Washington County, about two miles from the West Virginia line, observes three objects flying at tree-top level. They are round in shape, wingless, make no noise, and have red, yellow and green lights. The objects make several turns and then assume a triangular formation before suddenly vanishing. The light pattern of all three objects blinked in unison, the witness reports.

August 14 — A mother and daughter traveling west on Route 22 in Indiana County notice in the distance a row of four blue lights in the sky. As they get closer, the realize the lights are attached to an object that it approaching their position at an angle. When they round a curve, the object comes into view. The slow-moving, low-flying object has a roughly triangular shape and its structural framework seems to be made up of large beams. The object is silver in color, and is estimated to be about 60 feet long.

Similiar triangular or boomerang-shaped objects have been reported all year across the state, noted Gordon, and as recently as Dec. 3 there were more sightings in the Williamsport area.

"Bigfoot sightings were also reported during 1992 from various locations," Gordon added, with close-up sightings reported in Somerset and Indiana counties, and other reported encounters originating from Westmoreland, Washington and Allegheny counties.